

Supplementary Information

April 11, 2005

St. Clair County, IL Application to License, under a
Special Temporary Authority (STA)

Three 700 MHz, low-power, mobile only nationwide itinerant channels

Under call signs WQAH919, WQAH920, WQAJ441 and WQAJ442, St. Clair County IL is nearing the final steps of the installation of a 10 site, NPSPAC channel based 16 channel digital trunked radio system.

As the mobile and portable radios for this system are being received and are about to be programmed, the County would like to include three of the newly available 700 MHz, nationwide, low power, mobile only itinerant channels in them. In order to do this, the County needs to be licensed on these channels. The county has been waiting for some time for the capability to apply for this license on-line at the FCC's ULS system, but that capability does not yet exist. Therefore the county has been advised to file manually and seek an STA so that authority to use these channels may be granted in time for them to be programmed into and usable in the new radios, which will be fielded shortly.

The rationale behind these channels is that this new radio system was funded largely by a USDHS "Interoperability Communications Equipment" (ICE) grant with the objective of maximizing all potential interoperability opportunities, and with our neighbors in Missouri (700 region 24) very close to having their 700 MHz plan approved, we hope to be able to communicate directly with St. Louis County, MO (Less than 5 miles as the crow flies from St. Clair County) mobiles and portables when their proposed system is implemented. We also propose to use these channels to intercommunicate between agencies within the St. Clair County system, which should be operational and in full use before the end of the summer of 2005.

For these reasons, the county is requesting this STA.